

## Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 RSC-01 /015 W

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R 150900Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1653

INFO USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUBUMBASHI 012

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN BEXP CG

SUBJ: GECAMINES EXPANSION PROGRAM

REF: A. LUBUMBASHI 004, B. KINASHASA 10634 12/16/74, C. STATE 274080  
12/13/74

1. TAKING ADVANTAGE OF ONE OF HIS RELATIVELY RARE VISITS TO LUBUMBASHI, I DISCUSSED THE GECAMINES EXPANSION PROGRAM WITH DIRGEN UMBA ON JAN 13. HE MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS EMPHATICALLY AND CATEGORICALLY (AND WITH SOME EXASPERATION):

A. HE NEVER INTENDED TO CONTACT PARSONS-JURDEN DURING HIS RECENT TRIP TO THE US AS THERE WAS NOTHING HE WISHED TO DISCUSS WITH THEM. NO ONE IN KINSHASA (READ BISENGIMANA?) HAD EVER SUGGESTED THAT HE DO SO.

B. HE IS ALWAYS PREPARED TO RECEIVE PARSONS-JURDEN REPS AND WOULD HAVE SEEN THEM IN THE US IF THEY HAD CALLED HIM.

C. HE PERSONALLY HAS NO REASON TO INITIATE CONTACTS WITH PARSONS-JURDEN AS THEY HAD INDICATED IN MID-1974 THAT THEY WERE NOT INTERESTED IN ANY OF THE EXPANSION PROGRAM MODULES CONTRACTS AND HE HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT (A) THERE WOULD BE NO RPT NO SINGLE CONTRACTOR AND (B) GECAMINES WOULD ACT ITSELF AS COORDINATOR-PROJECT MANAGER.

2. ELABORATING ON THE EXPANSION PROGRAM, UMBA EXPLAINED THAT THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL CALLED FOR CFA (BELGIUM) TO ACT AS PROJECT MANAGER. HOWEVER, THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOVT OF ZAIRE DECIDED LAST  
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SPRING THAT GECAMINES ITSELF WOULD MANAGE PROJECT. THEN IBRD

RECOMMENDED THAT THE PROJECT BE BROKEN DOWN INTO COMPONENTS OR MODULES, EACH TO BE PUT OUT TO BID SEPARATELY. THESE DECISIONS WERE TRANSMITTED TO PARSON-JURDEN IN WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS FROM UMBA INFORMING US COMPANY THAT THEIR PROPOSAL TO ASSUME TOTAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROGRAM WAS REJECTED BUT THAT THEY WERE WELCOME TO BID FOR MODULE CONTRACTS. PARSONS-JURDEN REPLIED THAT THEY WERE NOT INTERESTED AND NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN GECAMINES AND PARSON-JURDEN ESSENTIALLY ENDED AT THAT POINT. UMBA EMPHASIZED SEVERAL TIMES THAT ALL OF THIS WAS HISTORY AND ENDED BY SEPT 1974. POSSIBILITY OF PROJECT MANAGER CONTRACT HAS NOT RPT NOT EXISTED SINCE LAST SPRING.

3. UMBA DID ADD THAT HE REMAINED INTERESTED IN HIRING ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL STAFF FOR THE EXPANSION PROGRAM AND THAT IF PARSON-JURDEN WISHED TO MAKE SOME OF ITS PEOPLE AVAILABLE ON SHORT-TERM CONTRACTS, HE WOULD BE HAPPY TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY WITH THEM.  
MARKS

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